

October 8, 2003

Mr. Matthew D'Oria
Acting Director
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services
NJ Department of Human Services
P.O. Box 712
Trenton, NJ 08625-0712

Dear Mr. D'Oria:

We are pleased to inform you that your June 12, 2003, request to realign your 5 years of demonstration authority to begin from the date of implementation of your Cash and Counseling Section 1115 demonstration titled, "Personal Preference," has been approved. The revised period of demonstration authority for demonstration number 11-W-00118/2 is May 1, 2000, through April 30, 2005. All other requirements of the October 9, 1998, demonstration approval letter and accompanying Special Terms and Conditions (STCs) apply.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services understands that during the revised demonstration authority period, New Jersey will be developing an *Independence Plus* 1115 application to eliminate the experimental "control vs. treatment group" design of the original Cash and Counseling demonstrations. We look forward to receiving the State's request.

Your project officer is Melissa Harris, who can be reached at (410) 786-3397 or at mharris1@cms.hhs.gov. Communications regarding program matters, and official correspondence concerning the project, should be submitted to the project officer at the following address:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Center for Medicaid and State Operations
Mail Stop S2-14-26
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

Should you have questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Glenn A. Stanton, Acting Director, Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group at (410) 786-6768. We extend our congratulations on this approval and look forward to working with you further during the course of the project.

Sincerely,

/s/

Thomas A. Scully